

A First Look at EPA's Portfolio Manager Upgrade

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Thanks for Joining



Web Conference Tips

Hold & Music

Please **DO** *NOT* put your phone on hold during the session.

Technical Assistance

Call 1-866-229-3239 if you need technical help.

Presentation Slides

Presentation slides will be sent to all participants and posted on our website.

Questions

Submit questions to the host via chat. There will be plenty of time to ask questions at the end of the presentation.



Agenda



- ENERGY STAR Commercial Buildings
- Growth in Benchmarking
- Portfolio Manager Upgrade
 - Goals
 - Development & Design
 - User Research
 - A Peek Inside
 - Timeline and Next Steps



ENERGY STAR Commercial Buildings Program



- Offers a strategic approach to energy management
- Enables building owners, managers, and tenants to save money & protect the environment
- Provides organizations with measurable information on energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reductions from commercial buildings
- Builds on strong ENERGY STAR brand recognition
- ENERGY STAR on a building = Superior Energy Performance
- Benchmarking is only the first step



Portfolio Manager: Benchmarking & Scoring Tool



- Free, online benchmarking tool
 www.energystar.gov/benchmark
- Enables you to:
 - Assess whole building energy and water consumption
 - Track changes in energy, water, GHG, and cost over time
 - Track onsite green power purchases
 - Share/report data with others
 - Create custom reports
- Provides a wide variety of metrics:
 - Energy Consumption (source, site, weather normalized)
 - Water Consumption (indoor, outdoor)
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions (indirect, direct, total, avoided)
 - ENERGY STAR 1-100 score (available for 15 building types)



Portfolio Manager A Common Platform

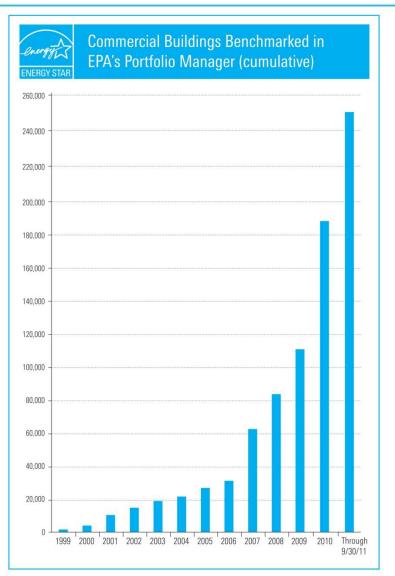


- The standard national platform for benchmarking energy in commercial buildings in the United States.
 - Tens of thousands of active accounts.
 - Used by more than 250,000 buildings, representing nearly 27 billion square feet of commercial and institutional building space in the U.S.
 - Adopted by leading commercial real estate, retail, healthcare, and educational organizations.
 - Reporting tool adopted by state and local governments for mandatory benchmarking laws
 - Required for use in buildings owned and occupied by US Federal Agencies.
- Selected by the Canadian Government as the platform for their national energy management program for existing commercial and institutional buildings



Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager Continues to Increase









Portfolio Manager Database and System Upgrade



Why Now?



- Tool launched in 2000
- Tremendous growth in usage
- Numerous enhancements over the years
- Need/opportunity to:
 - Enhance functionality
 - Increase ease of use
 - Improve processing speed
 - Assist users to improve data quality



What's Being Upgraded



Everything – Comprehensive upgrade to the entire Portfolio Manager Tool

- Database architecture
 - Review how information is stored
 - Optimize to account for growth in types of data that can be entered
 - Develop a platform that is expandable for the future

System processing

- Streamline methods for calculation
- Enable faster processing speeds, especially for people with large numbers of buildings
- Review hardware needs to support expanded growth



What's Being Upgraded (cont.)



- Web services (Automated Benchmarking)
 - Offer a new platform for the automatic transfer of data
 - Allow transfer by smaller "units"
 - Reduce start-up time for new providers to join
 - Make it easier to maintain
 - Transmit fewer pieces of information

User interface

- Overall Look/Feel
- Streamlined data entry
- Simpler reporting and sharing



User Research



- 190+ participants across different user segments
- Research methods
 - one-on-one interviews
 - online surveys
 - group brainstorming
 - usability testing
- Gained insights on
 - How people use the tool
 - The tool's strengths & weakness
 - The best new features to add (wish list)





User Segments Included in Research



- Consulted with users who come to Portfolio Manager to:
 - Benchmark Individual Properties
 - Benchmark Large Portfolios of Properties
 - Benchmark using Automated Services
 - Benchmark Federal Buildings & Comply with Executive Orders
 - Benchmark Canadian Buildings
 - Earn/Apply for ENERGY STAR Recognition
 - Provide Automated Benchmarking Services
 - Provide Energy Services and Products
 - Run or Participate in Voluntary Campaigns
 - Run or Participate in Mandatory Legislation
 - Design New Buildings
 - Offer ENERGY STAR Training

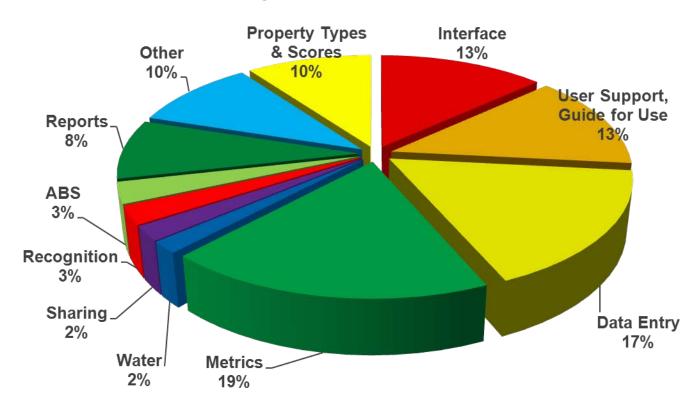


User Research:

What we heard



- Enhancement ideas were collected from all research activities and analyzed.
 - 546 total Enhancement Ideas produced 261 Unique Ideas
- Unique enhancement ideas were evaluated, prioritized and added to the list of development items for the upgrade.





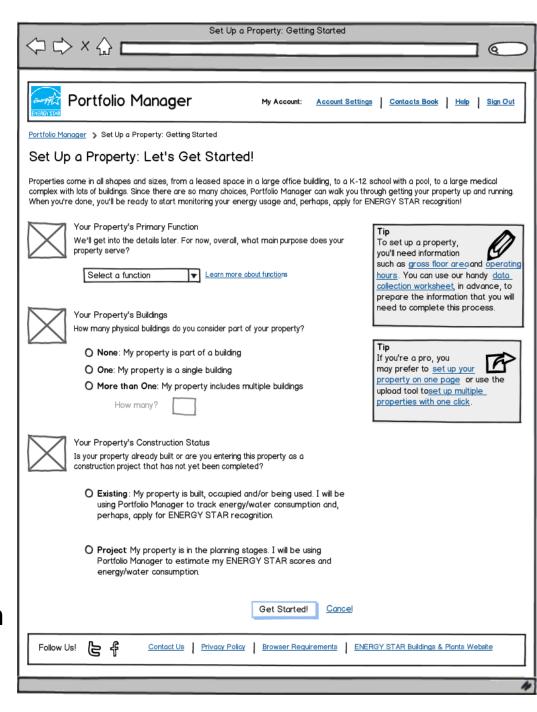


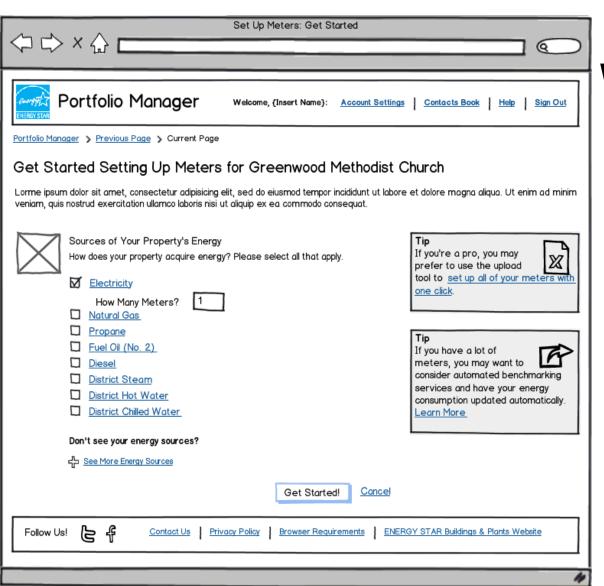
A Peek Inside



Add Property Wizard

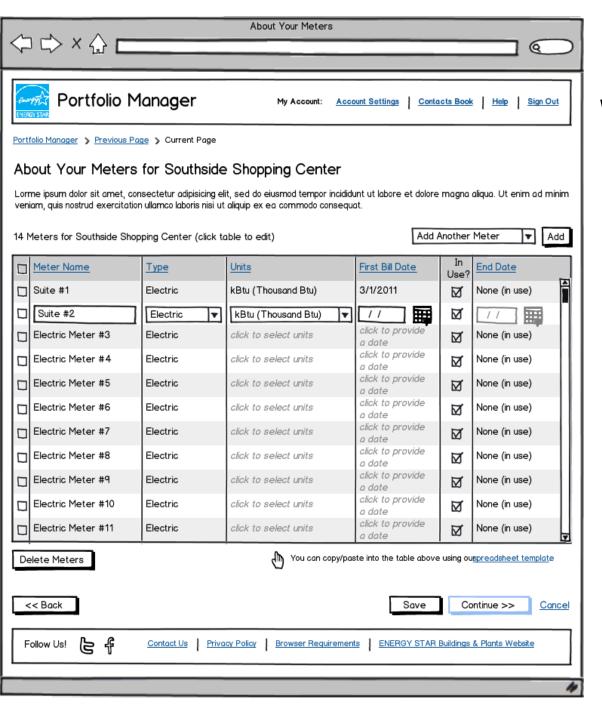
- Your Request: Make it more like TurboTax®
- Planned Change: Ask more leading questions about what is present to help pre-populate spaces
- Your Request: Incorporate more types of buildings
- Planned Change: Expand list of property types to choose from to allow better self- categorization





Add Meter Wizard – Step 1

- Your Request: Let me identify all energy types at once
- Planned Change:
 Selection of all types of fuels and number of meters on a single page for a complete picture
- Your Request: Keep choices more simple
- Planned Change: Initial list of most common types with "More" button to reveal all possible fuel types

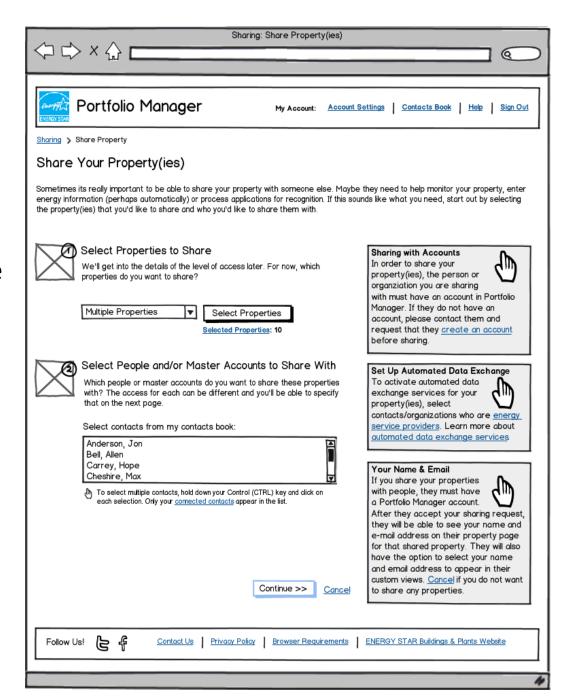


Add Meter Wizard – Step 2

- Your Request: Make it easy to fill in data
- Planned Change:
 New table, type-in data as you go
- Your Request:
 Simplify process for changing data
- Planned Change: Can easily delete or add meter if you got it wrong on the first page

Sharing Properties

- Your Request: Let me share with multiple people at once
- Planned Change: Choose multiple people and buildings on one screen
- Your Request: Allow more customized access
- Planned Change:
 Read/Write access can be assigned with greater granularity



Expanding to Canada





- Joint Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with Natural Resources Canada
- Harmonizes approach to assessing and tracking energy use in commercial buildings among the two countries.
- Canada-specific functionality to be added
 - Canadian source energy and emissions factors
 - Canadian 1-100 energy performance scales
 - Enhanced Canadian weather data
 - Metric Units
 - French language capability
- ENERGY STAR Certification will NOT be available.



Planning and Building the Upgraded Portfolio Manager



- √ 2011 Requirements, design & development
 - 2012 Drawing out designs
 - Some designs completed, others in progress
 - Software development
 - Release of Automated Benchmarking Services definitions & requirements
 - Adding intuitive and simple graphic design
 - Testing software
 - **2013** Refining tool for release
 - Migrate users' data to the Upgraded Portfolio Manager
 - ★ Launch new Portfolio Manager Planned Release: Spring 2013 ★



Between Now and Spring 2013



- Continue to benchmark and track your buildings in the current Portfolio Manager tool – all data will be transferred to the Upgraded Portfolio Manager
- Participate in quarterly update webinars to get more previews

Monitor progress at our new webpage:

www.energystar.gov/PMupgrade





Questions?

If after this webinar you have any questions on Portfolio Manager or the Upgrade, please contact

buildings@energystar.gov

